

Under the 2-year moratorium proposed in House Bill 963, this program could not continue.

My second concern with House Bill 963 is that it directly conflicts with the *Electronic Government Initiative* proposed by the Administration and passed by the General Assembly during the 2000 Session (House Bill 274). That legislation requires all units of the executive branch to have 50% of their public information and services available over the Internet by 2002 and increases the goal to 80% by 2004. The MVA has made tremendous strides in recent years delivering on-line registration and licensing services to the public in a more convenient and accessible manner. House Bill 963 would take the State in the opposite direction by prohibiting any course work, including remedial driver training over the Internet. I believe the legislation sends the wrong message in light of Maryland's role as a national leader in providing electronic services to its citizens.

With regard to the policy issues raised by the proponents of House Bill 963, I am confident that the MVA will carefully evaluate the benefits and impact of driver education instruction over the Internet prior to authorizing such programs. I am equally confident that the MVA will work closely with the Legislature, driving schools and other interested parties before making any decisions. This process has worked well in the past and I believe it should continue.

For these reasons, I have vetoed House Bill 963.

Sincerely,
Parris N. Glendening
Governor

House Bill No. 963

AN ACT concerning

Motor Vehicle Administration - Driver Instruction over the Internet

FOR the purpose of prohibiting the Motor Vehicle Administration, unless specifically authorized by law, from offering or authorizing any driver instruction program that is provided over the Internet; and providing for the termination of this Act.

BY adding to

Article - Transportation

Section 12-121

Annotated Code of Maryland

(1999 Replacement Volume and 2000 Supplement)

SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

Article - Transportation